To: Superintendents, Principals, and Guidance Counselors, Private, and Home School Associations:

In May of this year, the General Assembly established the South Carolina Virtual School Program (SCVSP) to ensure high quality education for the students of our state using technology-delivered courses. Any public, private, or home schooled student residing in South Carolina who is twenty-one years of age or younger is eligible to enroll in the SCVSP. The SCVSP is currently accepting applications for the 2007-2008 school year. An online application form can be found at https://elearning.ed.sc.gov (click on the student tab) or by visiting the SDE home page http://www.ed.sc.gov (click on the Virtual School button).

Before applying for admission to the SCVSP, please note the following.

- Students should review the online demonstration video on how to apply;
- The courses are delivered completely online, which means that students can take courses from their home or classroom computer lab, and can select their own time of day to learn;
- Final Exams for initial credit courses must be given in a proctored environment;
- Courses requiring a State End of Course Test can now be delivered online and must be arranged by the District Testing Coordinator;
- Courses are offered on a rolling enrollment basis. Students can register for a course and once they are approved they can begin working on this course at anytime;
- Initial Credit and Content Recovery courses are available (A complete list is available on the website); and
- Seating is limited.

If additional information is needed please contact the number listed below. We are excited about the official opening of the SCVSP and hope that you will find it of benefit to your students.

We have developed a new registration system which requires <u>each</u> school to obtain their own login to register students. Each school will need to use this login information to input your guidance counselors. It is important you establish a <u>school sponsor</u> as official "gatekeeper" and contact person for communication between your school and the SCVSP. This login will allow the <u>administrator or sponsor</u> to keep your guidance counselor's updated, view student data, and print transcripts for students within your school. There is a <u>sponsor form</u> located on the website that must be complete before students can participate from your school/district.

- 1. Go to the https://elearning.ed.sc.gov (click on the student tab)
- 2. Fill out the required <u>Sponsor</u> form. (Schools must register before students are enrolled.)
- 3. Login Information will be sent to the assigned sponsor to enroll your guidance counselors to approve students.

Once your sponsor has input your guidance counselors into the system, then they can login to approve the students who have applied to the SCVS. Time is very important in the process since students can not be enrolled until this is complete.

This is a new process for all and with your patience and feedback we will be able to make this a great resource for students statewide.

Sincerely,

Dee Appleby, MSA, MCP Interim Director, Office of eLearning dappleby@ed.sc.gov 803/734-5109